AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 30 and ending on page 4, line 8 with the following amended paragraph marked up to show changes made relative to the immediate prior version:

FIG. 1 shows a reconciliation system 14 50 according to some embodiments. In the embodiment depicted, the reconciliation system 50 includes a billing entity 100, a customer entity 200, and a reconciliation device 400. As depicted, the entities communicate through a network 300, which may consist of any available communications method and/or protocol, such as the Internet, fiber-optic, cable, or telephone connections, or satellite or radio frequency. The reconciliation device 400 may be part of (or operated by or on behalf of) the customer entity 200, a branch, affiliate, subsidiary, partner, or unit of the customer entity 200.